

**VIRGINIA BOARD OF MEDICINE
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES**

Friday, December 4, 2009

Commonwealth of Virginia
Conference Center
Board Room 3

Richmond, VA

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting convened at 8:45 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jane Piness, MD, President
Karen Ransone, MD, Vice-President
Valerie Hoffman, DC, Secretary-Treasurer
Gen. Clara Adams-Ender, RN, MSN, USA Ret.
Sandra Bell, MD
Malcolm Cothran, MD
Stephen Heretick, JD
Wayne Reynolds, DO

STAFF PRESENT: William L. Harp, MD, Executive Director
Jennifer Deschenes, Deputy Executive Director – Discipline
Ola Powers, Deputy Executive Director - Licensure
Barbara Matusiak, MD, Medical Review Coordinator
Amy Marschean, Assistant Attorney General
Elaine Yeatts, DHP Senior Policy Analyst

OTHERS PRESENT: Scott Johnson, HDJN
Tyler Cox, HDJN
Maria Harris, VA Osteopathic Medical Association

ROLL CALL

Emergency Egress Procedures

Dr. Ransone gave the verbal emergency egress instructions.

Adoption of Agenda

Dr. Reynolds moved to adopt the agenda. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

Public Comment on Agenda Items

Ms. Harris spoke to item #4; letter from the Federation of State Medical Boards. She expressed the Virginia Osteopathic Medical Association's objection to California's proposed merger of their Bureau of Naturopathic Medicine with the Osteopathic Medical Board of California. Mr. Johnson commented that the Medical Society of Virginia would continue to oppose legislation in Virginia that would establish licensure for naturopaths.

Approval of Minutes August 7, 2009

Dr. Cothran moved to accept the minutes of August 7, 2009. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Report of the Executive Director – William L. Harp, MD

New Citizen Board Member - Dr. Harp announced the appointment of a new citizen Board member, Michael Signer, and provided a brief synopsis of his credentials.

Midwifery Work Group – Dr. Harp informed the committee that the Midwifery Work Group would convene after the Executive Committee adjourned to begin its work on the development of regulations pursuant to HB2163. HB2163 requires disclosure by midwives to clients regarding certain high-risk conditions and medical referral. He also mentioned that there would be a presentation on the topic of Midwifery during the Board's workshop.

Prescription Monitoring Program – Ralph Orr

Dr. Harp introduced Ralph Orr, Director of the Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP). Mr. Orr brought to the Committee's attention a brochure developed as an informational and educational tool for licensees. He reviewed the content and answered Committee questions. Mr. Orr explained how to sign up for the program to access reports and the new format of the patient prescription history reports. He further explained how the brochure was designed for additions as they become available, the many uses and growth of the PMP program, and how to request speakers on the PMP for medical meetings.

Draft Regulations for the Licensure of Radiologist Assistants – Elaine Yeatts

Ms. Yeatts reviewed the law that established licensure for radiologist assistants. She explained that many interested parties attended the November Advisory Board meeting to review the draft of regulations and add comment, the result of which was the final draft before the Executive Committee for its consideration. She commented that the proposed regulations, if approved by the Executive Committee would go forward through the Executive Branch, but that she did not expect any action to be taken until after April, 2010. Dr. Ransone moved to approve the draft regulations as presented. The motion was seconded, discussed and carried unanimously.

FSMB Letter Regarding Licensure of Naturopaths in California – Dr. Harp

Dr. Harp explained the request from Maria Harris, Executive Director of the Virginia Osteopathic Medical Association, that the Board lend its support with a letter in regards to recent legislation that will combine the Bureau of Naturopathic Medicine with the Osteopathic Medical Board of California. After discussion of the matter, Dr. Ransone moved that the Board take no stance and write no letter at this time. The motion was seconded, discussed and carried 7 to 1.

Credentials Case Review – Dr. Harp/Ms. Powers

Three Credentials Committee recommendations, generated by hearings on Thursday, December 3, 2009, were brought before the Executive Committee for ratification.

Muhammad Atallah, MD – Dr. Atallah appeared before the Credentials Committee to respond to its inquiry regarding the possible refusal to issue a license to practice medicine pursuant to Virginia Code Sections 54.1-2915(A)(4). The Committee recommended that it grant a full and unrestricted license to Dr. Atallah upon evidence satisfactory to the board that his Florida license has been placed in a full and unrestricted status and that he has had no problems in his practice of medicine, including, but not limited to hospital actions, board actions or malpractice suits. Mr. Heretick moved to approve the Committee's recommendation. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

Heidar Sadeghi-Razlighi, MD – Dr. Sadeghi-Razlighi appeared before the Credentials Committee to respond to its inquiry regarding the possible refusal to issue a license to practice medicine pursuant to Virginia Code Sections 54.1-2915(A)(4). The Committee recommended that it deny a license to Dr. Sadeghi-Razlighi based on findings of fact that Dr. Sadeghi-Razlighi failed to convince the Committee that his knowledge base and clinical understanding were sufficient to practice medicine in a safe and competent manner. Dr. Bell moved to approve the Committee's recommendation. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

Minh Khai Tran, DO – Dr. Tran appeared before the Credentials Committee to respond to its inquiry regarding the possible refusal to issue a license to practice osteopathic medicine pursuant to Virginia code Sections 54.1-2915(A)(4). The Committee recommended that it grant a license to Dr. Tran subject to the condition that Dr. Tran practice under the supervision of a Board-approved practitioner for a period of six months from the issuance of license, and that his practice supervisor submit reports to the Board on Dr. Tran's practice every two months. Upon receipt of the final report from the supervising physician, the Executive Director may remove the condition on Dr. Tran's license or refer the matter to the Credentials Committee for further determination. Dr. Reynolds moved to approve the Committee's recommendation. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

Announcements

Next scheduled meeting: April 30, 2010.

Adjournment: With no other business to conduct, the meeting adjourned.

Jane Piness, M.D., President

William L. Harp, M.D., Executive Director

Ola Powers, Deputy Executive Director, Licensing